



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
Aging and Long-Term Support Administration
PO Box 45600, Olympia, Washington 98504-5600

October 5, 2022

AL TSA: NH #2022-057
**STATEWIDE 1135 WAIVER APPROVED BY CMS TO EXTEND NURSE AIDE TRAINING AND
CERTIFICATION DEADLINE**

Dear Nursing Facility/Home Administrator:

On August 29, 2022, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) published [QSO-22-15-NH-NLTC & LSC Revised](#), that announced the 1135 waiver for nurse aide (NA) training and certification was ending on June 7, 2022, requiring all NA-Registered (NAR) to be NA-Certified (NAC) by October 7, 2022.

With assistance from the Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission (NCQAC), the Department of Health (DOH), Leading Age Washington and Washington Health Care Association (WHCA), the Department of Social and Health Services (department) applied for a statewide 1135 waiver request due to widespread barriers identified for the nurse aide (NA) training and certification program in Washington state. On September 29, 2022, **CMS approved the statewide waiver valid until March 29, 2023 (180 days), or until the end of the public health emergency (PHE), whichever comes first.** It is important to understand that despite having more time to complete this requirement, facilities need to continue moving rapidly towards the goal of achieving certification for all NARs that exceed the 4-month requirement as the PHE *may end before* March 29, 2023.

This letter rescinds Dear Administrator Letter NH #2022-056.

Regulation related to the request: [42 CFR 483.35\(d\)](#) (with the exception of (d)(1)(i)). F Tag 728.

Thank you for your continued commitment to resident health and safety. If you have any questions, please contact Molly McClintock, Nursing Home Policy Program Manager, at (360) 742-6966 or molly.mcclintock@dshs.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

Mike Anbesse, Director
Residential Care Services

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